



Kiwanis[®]

CLUB OF PIQUA

THE PIQUANIAN

September 2024

Kelly Meckstroth (President), Joe Gephart (V.P.), Gretchen Roeth (Secretary), Mark Wion (Treasurer & Past President)
Board Members: Dennis Carity, Mark Greenwood, Marijo Poling, Shane Schneider, Joe Shaffer

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President's Message

Kiwanians,

September is among us which means fall is in the air- yeah! The last couple weeks have been dreadful with heat and humidity so bring on fall.

Our sponsored youth will be in full swing in less than a week which is exciting.

Unfortunately, this past month we said goodbye to Bob and Dennis with heavy hearts as they represented our club with honor and grace.

Attendance has been steady the last several weeks which has been rewarding- thank you! We will have our joint meeting with Troy on September 25th. This is one of our most popular meetings so let's have all Piqua Kiwanian hands on deck for representation! More about the joint meeting can be found on the following page.

We have some important dates upcoming so please watch your email and mark your calendars. One of which is October 23rd, our annual Halloween Parade. You can read more about that on page 3.

As always, thanks for all you do!

Kelly



House Cleaning

Birthdays

Jeff Smith (Sep 19)

Anniversaries

Kelly Meckstroth (Sep 9)

Wednesday Programs

- Sep 4 Piqua Community Foundation
Kalette Hittle, Executive Director of the Piqua Community Foundation,
will be the presenter.
- Sep 18 Piqua City Schools
Scott Bloom, Director of Curriculum, will be the presenter.
Board Meeting immediately follows.
- Sep 25 Piqua-Troy Joint Meeting at the Piqua YWCA
PHS coach Steve Magoteaux and players Kyle Magoteaux (Steve's son) and Scott Foster
will join us.

Wednesday meetings are held from noon to 1pm at the Piqua YWCA, 418 N. Wayne St., unless stated otherwise.
Currently, we do not meet on the second Wednesday of the month.
In the event of a program change, emails will be sent out with updated information.

For a lunch reservation notify Kelly Meckstroth by Monday.
Call/text (419) 348-4329 or email KMeckstroth@trio-healthcare.com.

DID YOU KNOW...current and back issues of the newsletter and up-to-the-minute meeting info can be found on our website at www.piquakiwanis.org.

Items must be received at least one week prior to the end of the month.

The Back Burner



Just a few things on the back burner that are worth noting:

Halloween Parade - **Wed October 23.**

Our annual Halloween Parade takes place next month and there are a lot of opportunities for volunteers.

Contact Kelly Meckstroth for more details or to volunteer.

Dogs to Towels to Kiwanis?

Ask anyone if they know what a dog is and they will probably reply, "of course". But then ask them to describe a dog and things get more difficult. With 200 dog breeds recognized by the American Kennel Club, the word "dog" can refer to anything from a 6 inch tall, 5 pound Chihuahua to a 30 inch tall, 180 pound Saint Bernard. And that's just size and weight. What about other features, such as pointed ears vs floppy ones, a long tail vs no tail, or a short haired dog with a slick shiny coat vs a long-haired shaggy dog. Then there's body shapes and personalities, everything from a long bodied, short legged easy going Basset Hound, to a skinny, long legged Gray Hound built for high-speed pursuits.

It's not surprising that a dog is hard to describe. But this kind of ambiguity is not limited to dogs. The same can be said for many other things, including towels. Though most people think of a bath towel, there are many other types, each with their own size and use. There are hand towels, wash cloths, beach towels, gym towels, tea towels, kitchen towels, paper towels, and more.

To move from dogs to towels, we'll see what kind of towel a breed of dog suggests. Let's start with the Chihuahua. Being one of the smallest of dogs, what towel comes to mind? If you thought "wash cloth" you are correct. At 12 by 12 inches the washcloth is the smallest of the towels.

How about the Saint Bernard? As one of the largest breeds you need to think big. If you came up with the "beach towel", congratulations! At approximately 3 by 5 feet the beach towel is one of the largest of all towels.

Let's try the Dachshund. For this breed you need to think differently. Forget size and think shape and coat. Most Dachshunds have a smooth coat and a body that resembles a tube. Anything come to mind? How about a tube, or roll, of paper towels. The Dachshund could easily suggest a "paper towel".

On to the Corgi. For this breed you need to think outside the box. Queen Elizabeth II was the most famous owner of Pembroke Welsh Corgis. The Queen's favorite hot drink was Earl Grey tea. In fact, tea is the U.K.'s national drink. Any thoughts on a particular towel? How about a "tea towel". These days, tea towels are mostly used in the kitchen to dry dishes and hands. But in 18th century England they were used to help insulate warm tea pots, hence the name "tea towel".

Our final breed will be the Scottish Terrier, or Scottie. This dog will lead to a particular type of towel that will in turn lead to a recent Kiwanis activity. To figure this one out, start with the breed's country of origin. Any ideas?

On the next page a connection to a certain type of towel will be made clear along with what that towel has to do with our club.

The Scottish Terrier, as we know it today, originated in Scotland in the 1800's. Scotland is famous for the Scottie, but what else is Scotland famous for? The answer is golf. The game had its beginnings in Scotland way back in the 15th century. So where does the Scottie lead us in terms of towels? The Scottie leads us to the "golf towel".

Golf towels are mid-sized, rectangular towels that golfers take with them to clean golf balls, wipe down grips, remove dirt from clubs, etc. So how does a golf towel relate to Piqua Kiwanis?

Our club has always sponsored local baseball and soccer teams. This season, golf fees for boys and girls jv and varsity golf teams increased drastically, so we decided to sponsor these teams. Part of that sponsorship involved purchasing thirty golf towels (pictured below) for the players. The towels are approximately 15 by 30 inches.



Speaking of DOGS, in September our club was involved with another type of dog, only these dogs have never been on a leash!

Curious? Turn to page 7 to find out more.

Kiwanis Work Project at the Johnston Farm

Working hard?



Or hardly working?



Piqua Kiwanis teamed up with the Johnston to build twelve new picnic tables. Site Director Ben Richard, of Johnston Farm, provided all of the necessary materials while Kiwanians Mark Greenwood and daughter Jeni Greenwood, along with Mark Wion supplied the tools and labor.

The tables were built on-site in the Farm's parking lot. It took a total of three hot, humid July days to complete all twelve benches, two of which were configured for handicapped visitors, but the results were worth it!

Ben was hoping to have them ready for the first rush of school children scheduled to visit the Farm this September.

By "working hard" and not "hardly working" we were able to meet Ben's timeline well ahead of schedule!

Kid's Day at the Fair

August 12 was not only a perfect day weatherwise, it was also Kid's Day at the Miami County Fair. That's the day when Kiwanis sponsors free hot dog lunches for kids and their families visiting the Fair.

In past years, the dogs were boiled off-site and delivered to the Kiwanians serving the lunches. This year was a little different. The dogs were grilled on-site. It made for a much tastier, and better looking, hot dog.

Eight Miami County Kiwanians worked together to prepare and serve the free lunches. Four were from the Troy club, one from Tipp City's club, and three (pictured below) from our club.



From left to right, Piqua Kiwanians Joe Shaffer, Mark Wion, Mark Greenwood

Thanks to the excellent weather, a new way of cooking the dogs, and two bounce houses located right next to our hotdog booth, we were busier than usual and ran out of dogs a half hour ahead of schedule!

In the past, we have always ended up with hot dogs left over. This was a first. Check out the highlights below. 800 hot dogs were served in 90 minutes.

In past years many hot dogs were dropped. This year only one kid dropped their dog on the ground and needed a new one, setting a record for "least dogs lost".

There are always a few kids that request a dog with no bun. This year was no exception.

This year we had a first: two kids requested a bun only with no hot dog!

Finally, if you do the math, a hot dog lunch was served every 6.75 seconds!

Wayne Thomas Receives the Legion of Honor

Wayne Thomas was presented with the Kiwanis Legion of Honor award. He received the award for his 25 years of membership and dedicated service with our club.

CONGRATULATIONS WAYNE!



President Kelly Meckstroth presented Wayne with his Legion of Honor award



Exercise Those "Gears" Between Your Ears

(answers will appear in next month's newsletter)

1. Where can you finish a book without finishing a sentence?
2. What runs but never walks, murmurs but never talks, has a bed, but never sleeps, and has a mouth but never eats?
3. A plane crashed on the border of France and Belgium. Were the survivors buried in France or Belgium?
4. Which is heavier: a ton of bricks or a ton of feathers?
5. You walk into a room that contains a match, a kerosene lamp, a candle, and a fireplace.
What would you light first?
6. TRY $\frac{\text{STAND}}{2}$

----- Answers to last month's riddles -----

1. The more you take, the more you leave behind. What am I?

Answer: Footsteps

2. The 22nd and 24th presidents of the United States of America had the same parents but were not brothers.
How can this be possible?

Answer: They were the same man, Grover Cleveland.

3. What word in the dictionary is spelled incorrectly?

Answer: Incorrectly

4. What do you bury when it's alive and dig up when it's dead?

Answer: A plant.

5. What do you throw out when you want to use it but take in when you don't want to use it?

Answer: An anchor.

6. What's lighter than a feather but impossible to hold for much more than a minute?

Answer: Your breath.

7. Get it
Get it
Get it
Get it

Answer: Forget it ("get it" appears four times, or four get it)